

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his indication that claims 15, 19, 20, and 27 were allowed and that claims 5-8 and 10-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporation the limitations of the claims from which they depend. Applicants also note that claims 16, 25, and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite as listed on page 2 of the Office Action. These claims were not rejected under the anticipation rejection of claims 1-4, 9, 13 and 14 by the Examiner. Applicants have amended claims 16 and 25 to overcome the indefiniteness rejection and consequently believe these claims are also in condition for allowance.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 3-5. Applicants have changed the dependency of claim 6 from claim 5 to claim 1. Applicants have rewritten claim 9 as an independent claim incorporating the limitations of claims 1, 3, and 10 of the previous response filed on May 10, 2007. The remaining claims have either been indicated as allowed or are dependent from claims which should be allowable once the present Amendment is entered.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

Application No.: 10/830,179

Docket No.: OSTEONICS 3.0-488

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: December 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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